



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney*

*Eastern District of Pennsylvania*

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January 8, 2008

**NEWS RELEASE**

United States Attorney Patrick L. Meehan today announced the filing of a four-count indictment<sup>1</sup> charging Joshua Newkirk in Count One with possession with intent to distribute five grams or more of cocaine base (“crack”); in Count Two with possession with intent to distribute five grams or more of cocaine base (“crack”) within 1000 feet of a playground; in Count Three with possession of a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime; and in Count Four with being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm. The indictment alleges that on September 30, 2007, Bristol Township Police arrested Newkirk and found 15.0 grams of cocaine base (“crack”) and a loaded .38 caliber Colt Detective Special revolver hidden in his pockets.

This indictment is part of Project Safe Neighborhoods, an initiative by the United States Attorney’s Office, Bucks County District Attorney’s Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, to identify and prosecute firearms offenders in federal court, where the defendants are likely to receive a substantial sentence upon conviction. If convicted, defendant Newkirk faces a maximum sentence of life imprisonment, with an aggregate 15-year mandatory term of incarceration, a mandatory 8-year period of supervised release, \$12,500,000 in fines and a \$400 special assessment.

**INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS**

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE
Joshua Newkirk	Levittown, PA	25 years old

The case was investigated by the Bristol Township Police Department, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rotella.

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<sup>1</sup> An indictment is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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